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Action

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NO: 185, October 23, 9 p.m.

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Following is first reaction high Swiss officials to President Kennedy's speech and US moves re Cuba:

DAC

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USIA

Acting Foreign Minister Micheli and Chief Western Section

NSC

Probst regard quarantine measure as

INR

CIA

NSA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

NIC

RMR

Also regard initial Soviet reaction as reported Radio Moscow as relatively mild. Believe however iron test will be what Soviets do with Soviet ships enroute to Cuba. Believe present US moves allow Soviets opportunity withdraw from dangerous position if they so desire.

Swiss obviously grateful our efforts keep them advised.

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-2- 185, October 23, 9 p.m. from Bern

President Chaudet in personal talk with Ambassador said:

FPD Secretary General Micheli told Ambassador

Embassy officers have received unanimous congratulatory reactions from Swiss contacts.

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-3- 185, October 23, 9 p.m. from Peru

[Handwritten initials]

Initial press reaction limited full but straight news coverage. Editorial reaction expected shortly. Will report when available.

MCKINNEY

JT/4

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